The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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Gary Makes Another Promise; Again Predicts Long-Day End

New York, Aug. 11.—Another concession to public opinion has been made by Judge Gary, who reiterates that the 12-hour day will be eliminated "as rapidly as the supply of labor will permit." In a public statement the steel trust head said:

"It is impossible to say when the changes will be completed. It will depend upon labor conditions at the respective plants. There will be no unnecessary delay on the part of any one.

"Where the hours of employes connected with continuous process are reduced from 12 to eight hours, their wage rates will be so adjusted as to afford earnings equivalent to a 15 per cent increase in hourly and base rates.

"All other workmen will be on 10 hours or less, and their present hourly and base rates will be continued; but wherever it is practicable, by promotions or changes in position, the daily earnings will be accordingly adjusted."

This statement means that the 12-hour day will be eliminated—sometime, but the 10-hour day will remain; that wages will be increased 15 per cent for the 12-hour men who have been over eight hours. Thus, the 40-cent rate will be advanced to 46 cents for those who have had their hours reduced from 12. There will be no change in the 10-hour workday.

This is a clear announcement that the three-shift system, so universal in British steel mills, is far from a fact in the mills of the steel trust.

In announcing a wage increase of 15 cents an hour to its 12-hour men—when the long work day is abolished—the steel trust says prices must be increased. This is the old trick of giving the workers a penny and making the public pay a dollar.

In 1920 Professor Horace B. Drury studied steel plants which were operating on the three-shift basis. In his report to the New York section of the American society of mechanical engineers, Professor Drury said:

"To give all the men now on a 12-hour day a 25 per cent increase in wages and cut down their day from 12 to eight hours, would cost a manufacturer of pig iron at the most about 21 cents a ton. Pig iron sells for $30 a ton (at time of writing). If all the departments in a steel plant were to be changed from two to three shifts, the increase in total cost for the finished rail, bar or plate, could not, on the average, be more than 3 per cent."

On the basis of Professor Drury's figures a general wage increase of 25 per cent, and an eight-hour day would mean, at the very most, an added cost of 21 cents a ton.

When Judge Gary made his latest announcement on the long work day, pig iron (gray forge Pittsburgh grade) was selling for a little less than $27 a ton. A 15 per cent increase means that the public will have to pay an additional $4.05 a ton, while an acknowledged industrial authority insists that 21 cents a ton would be the outside cost if the eight-hour day was general.

But the steel trust would flich the people out of the difference between $4.05 and 21 cents, while assuring the nation it is doing a great public service.

The steel barons are also assuring the public that they are confronted by a profound problem because of the proposed change, although America's most famous engineers propose the 12-hour day and favor the three-shift system, for reasons of humanity and production.

The steel barons have not presented a single authority in rebuttal. Over 14 years ago this need for the change was pointed out in a report of a government investigation begun in 1910 and published as a senate document.

The report stated that what is "every reason to expect that an increase in efficiency sufficient to at least offset this estimated increase in cost would follow the adoption of the eight-hour system. As a basis for this statement there is not only the experience in other industries, but in the iron and steel industry itself in the statements of the British blast furnace owners and the conclusive results of tests of the eight-hour system in American steel plants."

In Memoriam

EXPRESSION by a conference of representatives of international and local trade unions, called by President Gompers, following the death of President Harding, August 2:

We are profoundly grieved by the passing of President Harding. The shock of his untimely and unexpected death brings us a sorrow and a sense of loss that must be felt by all Americans. To Mrs. Harding we express our deep sympathy and our great admiration for her devotion and sublime courage.

We believe we speak for the great masses of the wage earners of our country in our expression of sorrow in this hour of national sadness. It is a characteristic of our people that, differ though we may among ourselves over matters of policy and principle, we have an unfailing regard and respect for the president and the presidency.

Those who have sometimes opposed the president out of conviction feel no less deeply grieved today than do those who have been his consistent supporters. For ourselves, partisanship has never been a personal question. It has been and must always be a matter of conviction and principle—a matter of judgment in relation to issues, but not in relation to men. Our hope and effort is for humanity within our republic, and for the perpetuity of its institutions.

In this spirit we join with our countrymen in mourning the death of a president who gave his life in the services of our nation. The burdens which he bore in a time of national stress and strain were inordinate, as were those of the president in whose suffering wake he followed. All Americans hope that the great burden of the presidency may be less exacting and more free from the recession of the exalted office.

With the passing of President Harding the office devolves upon the vice president and we address ourselves now in a common citizenship to the new chief executive, pledging to the future the wisest counsel we are blind and we can not see what lies ahead. But we proffer to the new president our wholehearted consideration and cooperation in all that goes for the upbuilding of our country and for the welfare of our people.

In this spirit we bid our welcome to the man who comes now to take up the fallen mantle. We bow in grief and reverence before the bier of our fallen president; we offer our services as citizens, our thought and our strength, to the government under him who is now called forth to assume that commanding post of duty.

LAW IS NOT RIGID; IT IS CHANGING LIFE

New York, Aug. 11.—"Rules which are looked upon with veneration today, and which are called The Law, will some of them be the laughing stock of a next generation," said I. Maurice Wormser, editor of the New York Law Journal and professor of law at Fordham university, in a New York World interview.

"Law is looked upon by nine judges out of ten, and by nine lawyers out of ten as a thing which, from life instead of a thing which is a part of life. The tendency today is to regard the law as a bundle of little maxims, rules, black letter texts, which can be tied up with blue ribbon, memorized and applied by mechanical jurists," said Professor Wormser.

"My theory is that the law must correspond to the inexorable economic, social and ethical demands of the community. If it meets these a law is a good law, and if it does not, it may have behind it precedents from William the Conqueror to the latest decision and it remains a bad law.

"Rules which were looked upon as sacred 100 years ago are looked upon today as nonsense. In 1600, if I agreed to sell you my cow and you agreed to buy her, I was bound to deliver the animal even if you were unable to pay for her, and vice versa, you had to pay for the animal even if I could not deliver her. The rule was in operation for almost 200 years. A sensible man came along, Lord Mansfield, and he threw this rule was nonsense, and then for the first time people realized that it was nonsense, although there were many who maintained that after all, a law is a law.

"Precedent is not the most important question, for when may be perfectly good law in 1890, may be outrageous law in 1923. The primary function for a judge to consider in the effect of his decision sociologically, economically and upon business. Many persons, including judges, agree with me on this point, but you can not expect them to say so. If a judge of the supreme court said what I have said, it is not at all inconceivable that he would be impeached. But an eminent judge told me recently that in his opinion society would be just as well off if every case that was ever litigated in the courts were decided exactly opposite to the decision rendered. He meant that, in too many cases, the courts have ignored the demands of the people and have considered only dry-as-dust precedents."

LABOR PAYS HOMAGE TO LATE PRESIDENT

Washington, Aug. 11.—Organized labor was represented at the funeral of the late President Harding in this city, August 7, by one of the largest units among the civilian organizations that were limited, as a rule, to ten members.

The men of labor joined with every branch of government, with diplomats and with thousands of other citizens in escorting the remains of the late chief executive from the White House to the rotunda in the national capitol. There, on the identical spot where rested the remains of Lincoln and other immortals, the people paid their last homage to the late president of the United States.

The following trade unionists participated in the cortege:

President Gompers, Secretary Morrison; John Dunlin and William Spencer, president and secretary, A. F. of L. building trades department; James O'Connell and A. J. Berres, president and secretary, A. F. of L. metal trades department; Frank Morrison, secretary of international unions; John L. Lewis, president miners; D. J. Gainor, president letter carriers; Leo E. George, president post office clerks; Peter Conlon, vice president molders; M. J. Finnan, vice president letter carriers; G. J. Richardson, secretary fire fighters; F. J. Haberly, secretary bookbinders; C. P. Dalrymple, secretary post office clerks; G. M. Bugniazet, vice president electrical workers; H. W. Strickland, secretary, A. F. of L. musicians' association.

N. P. Alifas, president machinists district No. 44; Edward Flore, representative railway clerks; Ellis Searles, editor United Mine Workers' Journal; John P. Frey, A. F. of L. legislative representative; Chester Wright, director, A. F. of L. publicity and information; James P. Egan, editor A. F. of L. Weekly News Service; Victor Carruth, A. F. of L., and the following representatives of the local trade union movement: Newton A. James, C. L. U.; Frank H. Long and George C. Selbold, representatives; J. J. Fallon and Thomas McQuade, plate printers; C. H. Evans, allied printing trades council; M. J. Click, painters; E. J. Manion, photographers and accountants; H. N. Link, railway carmen; John B. Lennon, editor Washington Trades Unionist; N. Sprague, printing pressmen; George B. Hedges, bookbinders; R. H. Burdette, carpenters; R. A. Dickson, stereotypers; H. Bule, building trades council.

OPPOSE AUTOCRACY WITH WRIST SLAPS

New York, Aug. 11.—The national economic league accepts organized labor's opposition to autocracy in industry, Henry Bentley Arnold reveals. Instead, company "unions" are favored, as is the giving to workers of small interests in corporations, he says.

The report follows a study of more than 1,000 plans for improved relations between employer and employe. It declares that a plan of successful relations can not be permanent if built around any employer. "It must have action from all in an enterprise comes from mutual exchange of ideas and free expression of opinion," it declares.

"A one-man policy is generally autocratic or paternalistic. Progress in labor relations does not lie in this direction," it is stated.

The committee which conducted the investigation for the league says that the term "industrial democracy" is misleading and should be abandoned; that employes as a whole are not interested in assuming the responsibilities of management, and they should be given the opportunity to have a voice in management on matters affecting their immediate welfare rather than have them participate in selling, purchasing and financing.

"In large organizations," the report says, "there should be a choice between the responsible proprietors or their responsible agents and their employes is limited, there is a fog of the 'human element' in industrial relations."

WANT EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Chicago, Aug. 11.—The Order of Railway Telegraphers demands that the railroad labor board stand by its eight-hour decision. The board has gave recognition to the eight-hour day and later ruled that eight hours could be worked within 12 hours in certain offices.

"If we are to have an eight-hour day," said Secretary-Treasurer Hall of telegraphers, "let the board so decide. But if it is the intent of the board to provide 12 hours a day for the operators in our class, then let the board so rule."

In defense of overtime payment requested, President Manion said that this is intended as a deterrent and as compensation for the increased speed of the employe. Sunday has a value to the worker which no other day has, and those who are compelled to work that day should be given extra compensation, he said.

"Our pay is low paid. Wage increases by central tribunals have not met the situation, nor has full consideration been given to increased responsibilities; on the contrary, the inadequate basing rate has been perpetuated. These inequities and orders until now not only the basic wage must be corrected, but inequalities must be eliminated."

TEXTILE STRIKE ENDS.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 11.—A strike at the United Hosiery mills has been settled, company officials agreeing to supplant the speeding up system that was intended to satisfy higher wage demands of the workers.

HUGE AUTO PROFITS.

New York, Aug. 11.—The Studebaker corporation, auto manufacturers, announce a profit of $7,300,347 during the last six months after all expenses and taxes are paid. The General motors company reports a six-months' profit of $41,535,606, after all charges.

IGNORE INJUNCTION.

Schenectady, N. Y., Aug. 11.—Jitney drivers are ignoring an injunction issued against them at the request of the local street car company, whose platform men are on strike.

U. S. Trade Unions Lead World; Are Not Interested In Formulas

New York, Aug. 11.—"American trade unionism leads the world today in every phase of the realm of organized labor activity," is President Gompers' challenge to the latest European critic of American trade unionism—Jan Oudegeest of Holland, one of the two secretaries of the International Federation of Trade Unions.

President Gompers writes in the New York Times, in answer to an interview with Mr. Oudegeest by William Atherton du Puy, an American newspaper man, who was for a time attached to the international labor office at Geneva. Mr. du Puy's interview was printed in the New York Times.

Mr. Oudegeest declared that American labor "has hesitated, floundered, almost failed," and that "it has been improperly led by Samuel Gompers."

President Gompers pays little attention to the personal attack on him. He says he will not worry about Mr. Oudegeest's statement until it is confirmed by the American trade unionists who have for 40 times elected him president of the A. F. of L. President Gompers declared that there is not a trade union movement in Europe free from internal discord, and free from bitterness and disappointment, as united and confident of the future as the trade union movement of the United States.

"The condition of labor in Europe is not all due to post-war confusion," he said.

"Labor in the United States is better off than anywhere else in the world. It lives in better homes. It wears better clothes. It has more intellectual and better food. It has a wider margin of choice in determining how and where it shall live. Finally, it has a better trade union movement with which to achieve more progress and improvement.

"Of what avail are the programs of Europe if their concrete results are inferior to the results of the efforts of American labor? It is notable that the labor movements of Europe run strongly to programs and formulas. And these formulas for everything. They embellish them, decorate them, punctuate them nicely, capitalize them freely, make speeches about them endlessly, gaze upon them worshipfully—and no doubt this pleases employers immensely.

"But the American workers prefer an increase in wages, with all the resulting opportunities, to a pleasing formula framed on the wall.

"In America we lack the background which is the direct source of the persisting European love for theory and formula. For this we are thankful, though we marvel at the persistence in Europe of medieval influences.

"All the countries of Europe might well settle in Texas, one state of the 48 in the United States. The countries of Europe are actually industrial, while the United States covers an area 3,000 miles across the continent and roughly 2,000 miles from Canada to Mexico, the greater portion of which is essentially agriculture.

"There is slight similarity of any kind between the problems of labor in America and Europe. Through European doctrinaries, intellectuals and newspaper men generally feel free to tell us how to order our affairs and how to enter the promised land which is yet so very far, from their own shores."

President Gompers calls attention to declarations of the International Federation of Trade Unions for a general strike to "socialize industry," and a general strike "to end war," as well. As these resolutions would cause the American trade unionists to surrender their autonomy, the A. F. of L. has declined to affiliate with the international.

"Largely under the influence of Mr. Oudegeest," says President Gompers, "the International Federation of Trade Unions has developed impossible schemes, has blundered into failures, if not disasters, and has made utterly impossible the hope for the present, the affiliation of the American Federation of Labor.

"I think I may suggest without impropriety that European critics of our movement set their own houses in order before attempting intellectual suzerainty of the United States of America."

SWEAT SHOPS ABOUND IN EASTERN CITIES

New York, Aug. 11.—Court trials of sweat shop and child labor employers in New Jersey have revealed that hundreds of such shops, located as a rule in basements and kitchens, are operated in various sections of this city, said Morris Sigman, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union.

In these bedroom shops, the union charges, boys and girls and even women are making hand embroidery, neckwear and men's clothing for large firms. At least 45,000 such workers are in the hand embroidery trade alone in New York city and New Jersey.

The international union of garment workers, Mr. Sigman said, has employed special researchers to visit these home shops and to interest workers in the union and what it means to them in the matter of sanitary conditions. The union is now organizing several thousand workers in embroidery shops in Hoboken and other sections of Hudson county.

The product of these insanitary shops is made along fashionable drives of New York city, where the elite are wholly unconscious of the conditions under which their exquisite scarfs and Swiss embroidery have been fabricated.

U. S. STEEL PROFITS SHOW BIG INCREASE

New York, Aug. 11.—Simultaneous with the announcement that the price of steel products may be increased 15 per cent because of changes in the 12-hour day, the steel trust reports profits that exceed any three months since 1920, and constitute the largest of any period since the world war. In round numbers, the net profits for the first quarter were $34,000,000 the first quarter of the year, and $48,000,000 the record quarter of 1920. The profits for the first half, after charges have been met after $10,000,000 was set aside for improvements and betterments.

This report brings a satisfied feeling to Judge Gary, though his unorganized steel mill employes, working 10, 11 and 12 hours a day for 40 cents an hour, are far from satisfied.

"I think we have little to be saying," said Judge Gary, "that from the standpoint of the manufacturer we should feel very well satisfied with the present situation."

LOW SCHOOL EXPENSES.

Washington, Aug. 11.—In a survey of the public school systems of Arkansas, issued by the United States bureau of education, it is stated that Arkansas ranks forty-fifth in per capita spent on public schools.

The United States as a whole spends $1.26 per capita of total population for public schools, the state that ranks twenty-fifth spends $7.20; the state ranking highest, $19.

"In order to make facts the conditions which the survey staff has found are not to be typical of the Arkansas states. "Hundreds of schools are closed for the greater part of the year, while children are crowded into dismal, insanitary buildings; they are taught by untrained, unworthy and sometimes highly ignorant and untrained teachers; school after school is closed or shut to close for lack of funds.

"In a commonwealth whose constitution requires that the legislature, shall provide a system of schools free to all persons between the ages of 6 and 21 years, such conditions should not exist."

The survey staff declares that Arkansas, "as a corporate corporation, finds that its machinery for producing education men is not functioning and an entirely new one introduced."

It is declared that "no mere remodeling or patching will suffice; an entirely new machine must be introduced."

CANADIAN UNIONS TO MEET.

Vancouver, British Columbia, Aug. 11.—The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada will hold its annual convention in this city beginning September 10. The congress is the legislative mouthpiece of the Dominion organized wage workers.

USE CHECK-OFF SYSTEM WHILE CONDEMNING IT

New York, Aug. 11.—Anthracite mine owners who are "fulminating against the check-off" readily grant this provision of contract in their bituminous operations," says President Lewis of the United Mine Workers, writing in a local paper in defense of the check-off.

The Susquehanna collieries company, which is one of the largest producers in the anthracite field, is controlled by the M. A. Hanna interests of Cleveland, Ohio, which operates bituminous mines in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and elsewhere, each of their bituminous operations they work under the check-off arrangement in a manner entirely satisfactory," said President Lewis.

"The Madera-Hill interests, one of the large anthracite companies, are also heavy producers in central Pennsylvania, where they work under a standard bituminous contract with the check-off. This is also true of a considerable number of anthracite coal operators, who are apparently attempting to justify the policy of preventing their right hand from knowing what their left hand is doing."

President Lewis answers the claim of the national coal association regarding the large amounts collected by means of the check-off in the central Pennsylvania district. The executive of the United Mine Workers deals a hard blow to his opponents by stating that in no instance has the money collected was used for buy payment of the miners' check weighmen, who were appointed by the miners to be cheated by unscrupulous mine owners or their agents.

An additional 12 1-2 per cent of the money collected was used to bury men killed in the mines.

The opposition to the check-off and to other claims of the miners is just as insistent as it was in 1912, when wages were $2 and $3 a day for adult labor and 50 cents a day for boys.

"Then, as now," said President Lewis, "they called on high Heaven that the wages were adequate and the conditions of employment satisfactory."

MERCHANTS TO FIGHT PRISON-MADE CLOTHING

New York, Aug. 11.—Retail merchants are urged to aid in the menace of prison-made clothing. Officers of the associated dress industries of America say these merchants have pledged their support to a nation-wide campaign for the elimination from public markets of convict-made goods.

A questionnaire sent out by this organization brought complaints against what was declared "an unfair and unjust competition."

Officers of the organization are hopeful that a movement to which all agree to cease buying these goods, but identification is one of the chief problems in the trade, since retailers often sell such articles without knowing.

LABOR EDITORS TO MEET.

Springfield, Ill., Aug. 11.—A call for the annual convention of the International Labor Press Association, to be held Monday, October 1, at 7.30 p. m., has been issued by Secretary-Treasurer Woodmansee. The opening will be on the evening of the opening date of the A. F. of L. convention.

UNION OIL FIELD.

Long Beach, Calif., Aug. 11.—The Jameson oil company has signed a union agreement with the Oil Workers' union. Wages are increased, with a two-weeks' vacation with pay. The check-off system for the collection of dues will be installed. The Jameson concern is one of the largest of the independents, and the accession to the union ranks will be an aid to the oil workers in their organizing campaign.

STRIKING COAL MINER DENIED U. S. PAPERS

Baltimore, Aug. 11.—Judge Valentine of Parsons, W. Va., will not grant citizenship papers to a striking miner member of the United Mine Workers, according to President Drum, district No. 16, United Mine Workers, in a letter to a local trade unionist.

Dan Spolarich asked for citizenship papers, and presented his honorable discharge from the United States army, where he served nine months.

The court took an unusual and unnecessary interest in the applicant's private affairs. The young alien was asked why he was not working and if he were a member of the United Mine Workers.

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O. B. Anderson, government representative, told the court, according to President Drum, that Spolarich had no right to be admitted to citizenship that he was a striker and a member of the United Mine Workers. An attorney representing the Davis coal and coke company also informed the court that Spolarich "is a follower of James J. Hogan who is interested in the miners' strike in the Thomas field."

"The final outcome of the hearing," said President Drum, "was that the court refused Spolarich citizenship papers, because he was a member of the United Mine Workers, and so stated."

"This judge used to be a local attorney of the Western Maryland and if he were in that county, whose craftsmen have been on strike for over a year. This shows you what we have to fight against in district No. 16. It shows you the prejudices against our cause."

SLIGHT LABOR DECREASE

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 11.—Employment in the manufacturing industries of this state receded less than 1 per cent in July, but this is due to the usual summer slackening, according to State Industrial Commissioner Shientag.

"About half of the industry divisions of the state added to their forces this month, and half of them let some of their workers go," he said. The decreases were in the glass, silverware and jewelry industries. An important decrease in the cotton and textile finishing industries was due to dull business conditions. This industry has been unusually active and has been operating night shifts until this month. The automobile industry showed a net reduction. Some of the mills were active, but report good business in prospect for the third quarter.

FLIRTING WITH FARMERS.

Chicago, Aug. 11.—Officers of the Illinois manufacturers' association have appointed a committee of business men to consider holding an "anti-radical" convention in this city.

The purpose is to convince the farmers that disaster and woe await them if they follow "progressive" senators who are now found in both political parties.

The "anti-radical" campaign was launched by John W. Glenn, secretary of the manufacturers' association. Mr. Glenn spoke against the so-called radicals, who oppose an eight-hour day for women, who fight against any restriction on injunction judges, and who attempted to foist a new constitution on the people of this state, which would legalize government by the judiciary.

MEAT CUTTERS UNITE.

Casper, Wyo., Aug. 11.—Meat cutters and butchers have organized and affiliated with the regular trade-union movement. Blacksmiths have done likewise.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

Decatur, Ill., Aug. 11.—The forty-first annual convention of the Illinois state federation of labor will be held in this city beginning Monday, September 10.

RAILROADS PROSPEROUS; ALL RECORDS BROKEN

New York, Aug. 11.—According to Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the Southern Pacific railroad company, American railroads are today the most prosperous in their history.

This statement comes at a time when the people are told that the railroads are on the verge of bankruptcy. This campaign has been carried on for months, and is intended to "scare off" proposed railroad legislation by creating a public opinion that "railroads are broke."

Mr. Kruttschnitt now throws a monkey wrench into the poverty propaganda by asserting that the roads are the most prosperous in their history. He said his own company is in the middle of a record month. The net ton mileage for June and the first half of the year was 28 per cent higher than last year. The June net ton mileage was the highest in the system's history, substantially equaling the previous record made in 1922.

The railroad official's reference to railroads as a whole might well be remembered that the Daniel Boone public, when they may hear sorrowful tales of broken down engines and equipment.

MIDDLEMAN TOO COSTLY; HE ALONE MAKES PROFIT

Portland, Ore., Aug. 11.—In a plea for a reduction of middlemen's costs, C. E. Spencer, state market agent, says that writers too often measure production by the buying demand, not the natural demand.

"If a natural demand for fruits and vegetables could be filled in this or any other state," he said, "there would be such a consumption of grown products that all agricultural sections would prosper. This demand must be helped by as short a bridge between the farms and families as is possible; the betweens expensive that do not add anything to the value of the product must be cut to absolute handling necessity."

"United States Senator Borah, in his speech in this city, said that for farm products the consumer paid twenty-two and one-half billions of dollars and the middle interests, the commission men, etc., received fourteen and one-half billions. In other words, what the grower received 39 cents for went to the ultimate consumer for one dollar. The figures of the United States department of agriculture bear out Senator Borah in these statements. And Senator Borah adds that this condition will destroy any industry."

FAULTY SCHOOLHOUSES THROUGHOUT THE LAND

New York, Aug. 11.—There are 1,500,000 children in this country who are housed in inadequate public school buildings, said Dr. George Strayer in an address to students in this city.

The speaker insisted on school planning years ahead. He said communities select improper sites and later they are forced to encroach on play space, which, he said, is just as important as class rooms. He advocated large tracts for play spaces so that play may become a regular school program.

Mrs. Edith Elmer Wood, housing authority, said one-third of the population of the United States is subnormally housed and stressed the need under conditions which produce acute degenerative changes, physical, mental and moral.

STREET CAR MEN RAISE WAGES.

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 11.—Wages of motormen and conductors in the Detroit united railways have been increased 6 cents an hour. The company has signed an agreement with the union. The company operates suburban lines and is near-by cities. The Detroit municipal street car system was formerly owned by the D. U. R.

MACHINISTS STRIKE.

Oakland, Calif., Aug. 11.—Machinists employed by the Scandia-Pacific gas engine company are on strike to enforce a higher wage scale.

WAR WAGES UNPAID; 8-HOUR DAY INVOLVED

Allentown, Pa., Aug. 11.—Organized machinists employed by the Bethlehem steel company announce that with the opening of the new congress they will renew their fight for wages awarded them by the national war labor board.

The case originally involved 21,000 employes, of which approximately 7,000 were machinists. With the ending of war work, these employes were laid off by the thousands and the addresses of many of them are unknown. Many of the machinists have also dropped out of the Machinists' union, but these unionists will carry on the fight not only for the wages involved, but to establish the principle that the government recognize the same rates of pay on government work in contract shops as paid by the government.

In 1918 the machinists reopened their old fight for an eight-hour day. The national war labor board held hearings, which resulted in the machinists in an award based upon rates paid in government plants. The war department refused $1,500,000 for these additional wages, and representatives of the national war labor board classified each employe for a certain rate so that his back wages could be quickly adjusted.

Checks for the money were being written in 1921, but everything was overturned by the judge advocate general of the army, who held that congress must approve the claim.

The case was then carried to congress, where it will be reopened at the next session. No one has denied the justness of the machinists' claim, as they were forced to work 10 hours and over on government contracts, while the law calls for eight hours.

While the thousands are making this fight, congress has voted millions upon millions of dollars to war contractors, and pension bills for claims, and which are rushed through most expeditiously.

WON'T SURVEY RETAILERS

Washington, Aug. 11.—The coal commission will not survey retail coal dealers, as this can be handled by state commission agencies. The commission found that coal retailing is inextricably associated with trucking, cost of storage and with the retailing of a variety of other commodities. A nation-wide survey of the more than 40,000 retail coal dealers would cost $2,000,000, and even then results would be unsatisfactory because of conditions, the commission hints.

U. S. EMPLOYES TO MEET.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Officers of the National Federation of Federal Employes have issued the call for the seventh annual convention, to be held in Denver, beginning September 3.

BUILDING TRADES GAIN.

Hartford, Conn., Aug. 11.—Organized carpenters, painters, plumbers and steam fitters have secured wage increases.

WAR CAN'T BE ENDED BY NICE, POLITE FOLK

Williamstown, Mass., Aug. 11.—The problem of world peace is not just a question of getting a number of sweet tempered and reasonably minded people around a table, said Philip Henry Kerr of London, former secretary of Lloyd George, in speaking before the institute of politics at this place. The latter declared that sentiment is not the road that will lead to world peace.

"The international problems would be comparatively simple," he said, "if all the 1,650 millions of people in the world were exactly alike in race, religion, religious and color, but they are not.

"The white population of the world is about 560,000,000, distributed mostly through Europe and America; the brown and yellow peoples number about 850,000,000, distributed almost entirely through Asia, and the blacks, who inhabit Africa, are about 100,000,000. In race, the Mongolian is the largest with about 665,000,000 people. Next comes the Caucasians with 645,000,000, and then the negro with 100,000,000."

Mr. Kerr estimated the present number of independent states at about 60. After listing the religions, the languages and dialects, he said these figures "bring out the extraordinary complexity of the world in which we live," and that the figures dispel the idea that sentiment and sweet tempered people sitting around a conference board will make peace possible.

He said peace will only be reached "by finding the means and still more the spirit through which the continuous problems which these differences involve, can be adjusted according to reason, justice and fair play."

FLINTS RAISE WAGES.

Atlantic City, N. J., Aug. 11.—Wage increases that range from 5 to 13 per cent in 13 of the 15 departments of the Flint Glass Workers' union, according to the American Flint Glass Workers' union in their annual wage conference with the national association of manufacturers of pressed and blown glassware.

Another conference will adjust conditions in the lamp working department, where workers are seeking a 15 per cent wage increase and a 44-hour week.

FEARS LOGAN "JUSTICE."

Logan, W. Va., Aug. 11.—Harold W. Houston, chief counsel of West Virginia miners, fears the "brand of "justice" gun county is noted for. The attorney has been indicted in connection with other miners, and he is resisting being tried in this county, because of its control by coal owners and their gun men.

CARPENTERS WINNING.

New Orleans, Aug. 11.—Organized carpenters in this city are winning their strike for improved conditions. They are being resisted by the general contractors' association.

STEREOTYPERS GAIN.

London, Ontario, Aug. 11.—Organized stereotypers employed on local newspapers have raised wages $4 a week.